



GeauxVote Election 2008 Journal: The Road to the White House

State and National Social Studies Standards

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BENCHMARKS AND GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

Source: Louisiana Department of Education Comprehensive Curriculum and Grade Level Expectations, <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/index.html>

Grade 3

Civics

Structure and Purposes of Government

26. Explain how government officials at the state and national levels are elected (C-1AE6)

Foundations of the American Political Systems

28. Explain the responsibilities of individuals in making a community and state a better place to live (C-1B-E2)

Roles of the Citizens

29. Identify the qualities of people who were leaders and *good citizens* as shown by their honesty, courage, trustworthiness, and patriotism (C-1D-E3)

Grade 4

Civics

Structure and Purposes of Government

22. Explain the role of government and the rights of citizens (C-1A-E3)

25. Distinguish between elected and appointed officials and give examples of each at the local, state, and national levels (C-1A-E6)

33. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in making the nation a better place to live (C-1D-E2)

Grade 7

Civics

Structure and Purposes of Government

10. Explain and evaluate the major purposes of government (C-1A-M1)

Foundations of the American Political System

33. Describe the role of political parties in the American political system (C-1B-M6)

Roles of the Citizen

39. Explain the importance of various rights and responsibilities of citizenship to the individual or to society at large (e.g., Bill of Rights) (C-1D-M2)
40. Explain issues involving rights and responsibilities of individuals in American society (e.g., rights of individuals with disabilities, responsibility to pay taxes) (C-1D-M3)

Grade 8

Civics

Structure and Purposes of Government

24. Identify current government leaders at the state, local, and national levels in the United States (C-1A-M6)

Foundations of the American Political System

36. Explain how political parties, campaigns, and elections provide opportunities for citizens to participate in government (C-1B-M6)

Roles of the Citizen

41. Explain the importance of being an informed citizen on public issues, recognizing propaganda, and knowing the voting issues (C-1D-M5)

High School

- Explain the two-party system and assess the role of third parties in the election process (C-1B-H5)
- Assess the significance of campaigns, campaign finance, elections, the Electoral College, and the U.S. census in the U.S. political system (C-1B-H5)
- Analyze the use and effects of propaganda (C-1B-H5)
- Identify key platform positions of the major political parties (C-1B-H5)
- Evaluate the role of the media and public opinion in American politics (C-1B-H6)
- Identify and describe services provided by government and assess their necessity and effectiveness (e.g., health care, education) (C-1A-H1)
- Cite the roles, duties, qualifications, and terms of office for key elected and appointed officials (C-1A-H4)
- Describe various forms of political participation (C-1D-H3)
- Evaluate the claim that American constitutional democracy requires the participation of an attentive, knowledgeable, and competent citizenry (C-1D-H4)
- Propose and defend alternative courses of action to address a historical or contemporary issue, and evaluate their positive and negative implications (H-1A-H4)

Educational Technology Standards:

- Make informed choices among technology systems, resources, and services.
 - Demonstrate knowledge and skills of Internet use and other resources consistent with acceptable use policies including the legal consequences of plagiarism and the need for authenticity in student work through an understanding of copyright issues.
 - Refine knowledge and enhance skills in keyboarding, word processing, desktop publishing, spreadsheets, databases, multimedia, and telecommunications in preparing and presenting classroom projects.
 - Collaborate with peers, experts, and others to compile, synthesize, produce and disseminate information, models, and other creative works.
 - Use appropriate technology to locate, retrieve, organize, analyze, evaluate, and communicate information for problem solving and decision-making.
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NATIONAL SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

Source: The Center for Civic Education, <http://www.civiced.org/index.php>

NSS-C.K-4.5 ROLES OF THE CITIZEN

What are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?

- What are important responsibilities of Americans?
- How can Americans participate in their government?
- What is the importance of political leadership and public service?
- How should Americans select leaders?

NSS-C.5-8.3 PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY

How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embody the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?

- What does the national government do?
- Who represents you in national government?
- How does the American political system provide for choice and opportunities for participation?

NSS-C.5-8.5 ROLES OF THE CITIZEN

What are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?

- What are the rights of citizens?
- What are the responsibilities of citizens?
- How can citizens take part in civic life?

NSS-C.9-12.3 PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY

How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embody the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?

- How is the national government organized and what does it do?

- How does the American political system provide for choice and opportunities for participation?

NSS-C.9-12.5 ROLES OF THE CITIZEN

What are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?

- What is citizenship?
- What are the rights of citizens?
- What are the responsibilities of citizens?
- How can citizens take part in civic life?

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